



W. H. STEPANEK.—Representative from Forty-eighth district (Linn county). Was born on a farm in Johnson county May 8, 1868, and gained his early education in the public schools at Ely and the Cedar Rapids business college. At the age of twenty-one he left the farm to take a position with a hardware company, remaining four years. In 1894 organized the Stepanek-Vondracek Hardware Company in Cedar Rapids. Was married June 11, 1892, to Josephine Chastek, and has one son, Leo. Is a member of the Peoples church. Active in civic affairs, having been a director in the old chamber of commerce, a city councilman, commissioner of finance under the commission plan, chairman of the court house committee that was instrumental in locating the county seat at Cedar Rapids, and is at present chairman of the mercantile bureau of the chamber of commerce, a director in the Western Bohemian Fraternal association, member of the Rotary club and the zoning commission, as well as all bodies of the Masonic order. A republican in politics.



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